Law Enforcement

United States Embassy in South Africa

"Every civilized nation has a part in this struggle, because every civilized nation has a stake in its outcome. We fight for lawful change against chaotic violence, for human choice against coercion and cruelty, and for the dignity and

President George W. Bush March 11, 2002

goodness of every life."



BACKGROUND

South Africa has well-developed banking, communications, and transportation infrastructures that make it attractive to domestic and international organized crime. Such criminals endanger South Africans, dissuade foreign investment in South Africa, and affect U.S. citizens and interests by smuggling drugs, laundering money, counterfeiting currency, falsifying the origin of goods to avoid tariffs, and promoting corruption and terrorism. If unchecked, international organized crime can destabilize the region.

Since the high volume of criminal cases has created an immense backlog in the courts, the U.S. has invested substantially in law enforcement, crime prevention, and strengthening South Africa's criminal justice system to be more accessible to victims of crime, particularly women and children. The U.S. is also helping other countries in the region to improve their security institutions' ability to fight against criminal elements and to foster better coordination and cooperation between law enforcement agencies in countries across Southern Africa.



WHAT IS THE U.S. MISSION **DOING?**

- Sending South African officials to the U.S. and to the International Law Enforcement Academy in Botswana for training.
- Providing U.S. specialists to train entities in the South African law enforcement and judicial community on a wide array of issues.
- Actively cooperating with South Africa in the fight against terrorism through information sharing, training and donation of equipment and dogs.
- Supporting South African organizations working to prevent crime and violence.
- Providing needed equipment to the South African Police Service and other law enforcement entities.
- Sharing U.S. experience in developing effective legislation related to the administration of justice.
- Providing technical assistance when requested in high profile investigations.
- Assisting South Africa to decentralize and streamline its court management systems.



TRAINING SOUTH AFRICAN LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICIALS HAVE RECEIVED

- Violent crime analysis
- Interviewing and interrogation skills
- Computer crimes
- **Forensics**
- Advanced economic crimes
- Sexual offences investigations, among other topics

U.S. AGENCIES WORKING WITH SOUTH AFRICAN AUTHORITIES









- Department of State
- Federal Bureau of Investigation
- Immigration and Naturalization Service
- Drug Enforcement Agency
- US Secret Service
- US Customs Service
- US Agency for International Development









WHAT HAS HAPPENED?

- Signed Extradition and Mutual Legal Assistance Treaties which have brought U.S. and foreign fugitives to justice.
- The U.S. Secret Service provided security for President Mbeki during his visit to the United States.
- A U.S. prosecutor worked with the National Department of Public Prosecutions to assist on money laundering, organized crime and sexual offences cases.
- Helped professionalize detectives and other officers in South African law enforcement area.
- Countered the laundering of money, including from illicit enterprises such as terrorist organizations.
- Improved security procedures at airports and tightened immigration controls.
- Stopped financial fraud scams targeting U.S. citizens and seized counterfeit currency, particularly U.S. dollars.
- Worked with the Departments of Justice and Public Works to refurbish court houses in the Eastern Cape so as to expand access to justice in the rural areas.
- Hampered the flow of narcotics.

WHAT'S NEXT?

- Work with the South African Police Service, the South African Revenue Services and the Department of Home Affairs to strengthen border controls.
- Expand program with South African organizations working on juvenile justice issues.
- Together with SAPS, work on a comprehensive program to lower the police mortality rates.
- Continue programs that strengthen the judicial system.
- Expand crime and violence prevention programs, particularly for youth.
- Train customs officials to better determine origin of goods and assess appropriate tariffs.
- Explore U.S. best practices in municipal policing.
- Implement training and mentoring programs for public prosecutors.



USEFUL WEBSITES

State Department International Narcotics & Law Enforcement Affairs:

http://www.state.gov/

Federal Bureau of Investigation:

http://www.fbi.gov/

Drug Enforcement Agency:

http://www.usdoj.gov/dea/

U.S. Secret Service:

http://www.usss.treas.gov

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco & Firearms:

http://www.atf.treas.gov

U.S. Customs Service:

http://www.customs.treas.gov

Immigration and Naturalization Service:

http://www.ins.gov